

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A vehicle panel (10), comprising:
 a core layer (12), and
 a layer of metalized film (14) bonded to said core layer (12), wherein said layer of metalized film (14) forms an exterior surface of the vehicle panel (10) proximate to a source of heat when the vehicle panel (10) is in use.
2. The vehicle panel of Claim 1, wherein said layer of metalized film (14) is made of a material that is compatible with said core layer (12).
3. The vehicle panel of Claim 2, wherein said layer of metalized film (14) comprises polyethylene terephthalate (PET).
4. The vehicle panel of Claim 1, wherein said core layer (12) is made of an insulating material.
5. The vehicle panel of Claim 4, wherein said core layer (12) comprises polypropylene material.
6. The vehicle panel of Claim 1, wherein said vehicle panel (10) comprises a headliner.
7. The vehicle panel of Claim 6, wherein said layer of metalized film (14) is positioned nearest to a vehicle roof when the vehicle panel (10) is in use.
8. A method of manufacturing a vehicle panel (10), comprising the steps of:
 positioning a core layer (12) on a first mold half of a mold tool;
 positioning a metalized film (14) on a second mold half of the mold tool;
 and
 closing the first and second mold halves and applying heat to the core layer (12) such that the heat from core layer (12) is transferred to the metalized film (14), whereby the metalized film (14) becomes formable and bonds to the core layer (12), and whereby the metalized film (14) forms an exterior surface of the vehicle panel (10) proximate to a source of heat when the vehicle panel (10) is in use.